House Republican Press Release

June 29, 2005

Press Office: 860-240-8700

Rep. Klarides, Sen. Crisco and Rep. Gentile Announce \$500,000 for Downtown Development Project in Derby



Hartford - Representative Themis Klarides (R-Derby), Senator Joseph Crisco (D-Woodbridge) and Representative Linda Gentile (D-Derby/Ansonia) announced that while meeting in special session the General Assembly gave final approval to provide Derby with \$500,000 for a major downtown revitalization

project.

The bonding package calls for Derby to use the funding for a 19-acre redevelopment project in the downtown area. The city is planning to demolish a number of blighted buildings and then build new housing and make other improvements in the area.

"The General Assembly recognizes the significance and importance of downtown revitalization to Derby, and these bonding funds will go a long way in realizing that vision," said **Representative Klarides**. "The improvement projects that are currently underway will have tremendous positive impact to the City of Derby and be a great benefit to the residents."

"I'm delighted the General Assembly approved funding for this important redevelopment project that will help to improve the economy and living conditions in Derby," said **Senator Crisco**. "This funding gives some of the smaller community with problems similar to larger communities in urban centers an opportunity to help revitalize their downtown areas."

"I am so pleased that this bonding money will be going to Derby. The city has an important development project in various planning stages, and this money will go a long way in helping to move the project along even further," said **Representative Gentile**. "The planned development project is just want the community needs to increase the grand list and provide much needed tax revenues, dramatically improve the appearance of the downtown area, and also improve the quality of life for the residents."